

In both the Recreation and Housing categories, more county respondents were dissatisfied than satisfied; just the opposite was true for state respondents. While admittedly this reflects only a county opinion, there is quite possibly some of this feeling within Selma. And while the development of the Brack Wilson Park will certainly act to mitigate some of these adverse feelings, the almost total absence of rental apartments within town certainly is closely linked with the use in the number of mobile homes just outside of town.

Some of the opinions expressed in the aforementioned tables are useful guides to the planning board and the town government as it seeks to develop a community responsive to the citizen's needs. Some recently enacted statutes can be of assistance in this respect.

#### A. Statutory Authority

Since municipalities are creatures of the state, they have legal authority to undertake functions that are expressly granted by the state legislature. Since 1971, several new statutes have been enacted, some of which may be useful to Selma.

1. The Municipal Service District Act of 1973 (G. S. 160A-535 through 160A-543). Under this act, the town board may define any number of service districts in order to finance, provide, or maintain districts for any of the following purposes: (1) flood protection works, (2) downtown revitalization projects, (3) drainage projects, and (4) off-street parking facilities.
2. North Carolina Environmental Policy Act of 1971 (G. S. 113A-2 through 113A-20). This act allows local governments to require environmental impact statements from developers of all projects affecting more than two acres of land.
3. North Carolina Bicycle and Bikeway Act of 1974. This act authorizes development of a bicycle and bikeway program in the state, coordinated by the Department of Transportation. Technical assistance is available to local units of government in planning and development of bikeway projects.
4. Community Appearance Commissions (G. S. 160A-451 through 160A-455). Enacted in 1971 and amended in 1973, this act authorizes the creation of a commission to improve the visual quality and aesthetic characteristics of a municipality or county.
5. Compliance of Subdivision Streets with Minimum Standards (G. S. 136-102.6). Enacted in 1975, this statute requires that any tract of land subdivided from and after October 1, 1975, which contains public roads will contain provisions within the plat that the right-of-way and design of streets shall be in accordance with the minimum right-of-way and construction standards established by the Secondary Roads Council for acceptance on the state highway system.